



XXVIII DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS COORDINATION GROUP MEETING

Held on Thursday, 12th January 2006, at 10h00

MINECOFIN Basement Conference Room

Kigali, Rwanda

MEETING MINUTES

ANNEX 1: FOLLOW-UP MATRIX

ANNEX 2: LIST OF ATTENDEES

ANNEX 3: DAD FACT SHEET

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ANNEX 5: NEC PRESENTATION

1. Agenda Item #1: Review and Adoption of the November 24th DPCG Minutes

1.1. The Chair, SG MINECOFIN, reviewed the November DPCG Meeting minutes which were adopted with no change.

1.1.1. A Development Partner (DP) requested for an update on the study tour of the EFU to Tanzania, which was announced at the last DPCG. Jean-Jacques Nyirubutama, EFU Director, responded that the study tour has not yet taken place.

1.2. The chair reviewed the Agenda for the DPCG meeting.

1.2.1. DP requested an update on the formulation of the Aid Policy Document.

2. Agenda Item #2: Review of Fifth Annual Government of Rwanda and Development Partners Meeting

2.1. The EFU Director first thanked the DPs for their support during the 2005 DPM held on December 1st and 2nd and presented highlights of the meeting:

2.1.1. The PRS process was discussed in some detail. Linkages between sector strategic plans, the MTEF, and annual budgets, were flagged as areas for improvement. The need for balance between investment in the productive and social sectors in the EDPRS was discussed at length. He was pleased that partners share the concerns of the government on energy supply problems, and looked forward to continued partnership in this area.

2.1.2. The presentation made by the Director of Treasury on post-HIPC financing options was very well received. It was felt that there is consensus amongst both government and development partners on the need to raise increased resources without increasing the GOR's debt burden. The needs for flexibility, predictability, and long-term commitment in the delivery of assistance were discussed. The Meeting drafted a communiqué address to the senior level meeting of OECD DAC, outlining the issues discussed relating to Rwanda's post-HIPC situation. Whilst this is certainly an issue requiring political will at high-levels, it is also something that the Government of Rwanda looks forward to working on with development partners at the local level.

2.1.3. The Government of Rwanda's work on the development of an aid policy was also discussed. The EFU Director was convinced that the broad consultative, inclusive approach adopted is the right one. He looks forward to presenting more on this important area of change over the coming weeks and months.

2.1.4. Ongoing reforms in decentralization, public sector and PFM reforms were discussed, and some partners agreed to channel more resources into decentralization.

2.1.5. The importance of both agriculture and rural development was discussed – remembering of course that these are not synonymous but nevertheless related. The strategic framework for agricultural development was praised. The EFU Director felt that discussions around the linkages between agriculture, rural development, and development in other sectors such as energy, commerce, land and water were constructive.

2.1.6. Efforts on peace, stability, justice and national reconciliation were praised and it is clear that the work of both the government and its development partners in these areas is essential in providing an environment in which broad social and economic development can occur.

2.1.7. Development partners pledged to continue to support Rwanda, and in many instances discussed how they might be willing to increase their support – both in terms of the volume of assistance provided but also in reconsidering the modalities through which such assistance is provided.

2.2. The EFU Director continued by clarifying how to take forward the discussions and commitments made at the meeting.

2.2.1. Whilst the discussions held and the relationships that were strengthened are important outcomes of the DPM, they are by no means an end. He was keen that the output from the DPM should be taken as stimuli for work in 2006, and that this work should yield results.

2.2.2. The Government has drawn up an action plan enabling it to follow points of interest arising from the DPM, and tasks for follow-up have been allocated. The GOR is particularly keen to look at how to work with those partners that expressed an interest in giving budget support to ensure that progress is made on this front. Likewise, where other forms of assistance have been offered, the GOR wants to look closely at how this support can be mobilized effectively. Where comments and criticism have been directed at government organizations, these have been noted, and further discussion can be expected in the appropriate forums.

2.3. The discussions following the presentation focused on the action plan.

2.3.1. DPs commended the GOR for preparing a DPM action plan and asked whether or not it was issued and if it could be shared.

2.3.2. The EFU Director answered that it has been issued and discussed internally within the GOR. Although the document is internal, he agreed to distribute a DPM action plan for discussion at the February DPCG.

2.3.3. Another DP stated that the action plan will be a useful tool for updating the harmonization calendar and as a basis for further discussion at the DP Retreat.

3. Agenda Item #3: Civil Service Salary Reform

3.1. This Agenda Item had been postponed to the next DPCG meeting since the SG of MIFOTRA could not attend due to unforeseen circumstances.

4. Agenda Item #4: Demo of Rwanda Development Assistance Database (DAD)

4.1. Dereck Rusagara, ICT Specialist at the ACU, first introduced to newcomers what the Development Assistance Database (DAD) is, and its importance.

4.1.1. He pointed out that the development of this ICT tool is still on-going and that the demo he was about to present will show incomplete data, as the exercise of data collection has not yet ended. The data shows the list of organizations that provide support to the government, areas of their interventions, with further details about those interventions (e.g. pledges and the disbursements). The DAD will be launched at the DP Retreat in March.

4.1.2. Dereck Rusagara presented the Rwanda DAD and some of its functionalities online (temporarily hosted at dad.synisys.com/dadrwanda/). Annex 3 of the minutes presents a one-page summary of the DAD for your reference.

4.2. The SG reminded the participants the importance of DAD being a tool for planning purposes.

4.3. The discussion with DPs centered on the following issues:

4.3.1. **Pipeline Projects** – DPs wanted to know whether projects in the pipeline were also captured and if not, if it would be possible to include them. The response was that projects in the pipeline were not captured, as it was not something that had been requested for by stakeholders during the consultative meetings held with the developers of the DAD. However, it was technically possible to accommodate that request, and could be included in the final Rwanda DAD.

4.3.2. **Direct Budget Support** – DPs requested information on the provisions for direct budget support and other funding modalities in the DAD. Dereck Rusagara responded that has been a request to incorporate links between DBS and the recurrent budget. DBS is catered for in the Rwanda DAD.

4.3.3. **SmartGov Integration** – It was made clear that an interface with SmartGov is critical. The answer was that extensive discussions were held between the ICT Unit (MINECOFIN) and the developers of the DAD on this subject. The Rwanda DAD will be able to interface with SmartGov and link to the national budgeting system.

4.3.4. **Security Procedures** – The issue of security procedures and validation of data was raised since it is exposed to external interference. MINECOFIN assured that security concerns have been exhaustively discussed with the developers.

4.3.5. **Link with DPM Action Plan** – A request was made to integrate and monitor the DPM Action Plan through the DAD. The response was that the DAD has the capability of tracking external financing by the GORs priorities (PRS, Sector Plans, MDGs), but the DPM Action Plan will not be integrated as it is merely a tool to achieve the priorities, not an end in itself.

5. Agenda Item #5: Report Backs

5.1. Budget Support Harmonization Group (BSHG)

5.1.1. The Director of SPU (MINECOFIN) made the presentation and stated that the BSHG last met on December 7th and discussed six major items.

- BSHG Terms of Reference
- Public Financial Management (PFM) Reforms
- Joint Reviews (agreed that March Joint Review will be backward-looking and September Joint Review will be forward-looking)
- Disbursement schedules for DBS
- Issue of spending on core programmes of the GOR
- Decided on rotating co-chairmanship

5.1.2. Discussion on the BSHG presentation included:

- Budget Support donors found the December meeting to be very effective and showed optimism for 2006.
- It was clarified that the guidelines are being prepared for PERs. The SPU will develop the schedule.
- Budget Support donors stated that the Joint Budget Support Review is more effective if the quality of sector reviews receiving budget support is good.
- The joint 2005 CFAA should be ready by next month. The World Bank finished the report and MINECOFIN has recently provided on comments on it.
- Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) is a joint assessment of PFM systems that is an internationally agreed method with indicators of both government and donor performance. The PEFA evaluation will be done before the September Joint Budget Support Review.
- The Chair also announced that Germany and Canada will begin participating as observers in the BSHG as they are moving towards budget support modalities of providing aid.

5.2. *Education Development Partners Group (EDPG)*

5.2.1. The Director of Planning (MINEDUC) briefly stated that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the GOR and DPs for the education sector has been under the dialogue and the updated version has been distributed to DPs. This MOU will act as a guide to all partners that wish to support the education sector. It will help to achieve the following six principles:

- Aligned and harmonized planning and resource allocation
- Harmonized external finance modalities
- Harmonized policy dialogue and information sharing
- Harmonized systems
- Harmonized approach towards capacity building programmes and this is divided into phases. The first phase begins in January and goes for one year and the next phase will be for five years.
- Harmonized performance and monitoring mechanisms

5.2.2. The presenter is expecting the MoU to be signed in March this year at the Joint Education Sector Review. He utilized the occasion to call upon all partners to come onboard and join this MoU.

5.2.3. Discussion on Vocational Training for Youth – This issue is not covered in detail in the ESSP, because the mandate was under MIJESPOC. It is only recently that this mandate was shifted to MINEDUC. With the assistance of DPs, especially GTZ, the process of developing a strategy for vocation training is underway. The policy will be published soon.

5.3. *Decentralization Cluster*

5.3.1. Apollinaire Mushinzimana (Head of NDIS, MINALOC) presented on the decentralization retreat held in Gisenyi on November 10th and 11th 2005. See Annex 4 for PowerPoint Presentation by NDIS on the retreat.

5.3.2. Due to events linked to territorial reform MINALOC has not had enough time to follow-up with partners on the commitments made during the retreat. The plan is to begin reestablishing contacts and consultations with partners next week to identify support areas.

5.3.3. Some of the progress in territorial reform was highlighted:

- Law on Territorial Reform was approved by Parliament in December;
- On January 1st 2006, the interim administration was appointed;
- Induction courses for executive secretaries both on district and sector levels are underway with the support from line ministries but with MINALOC leading;
- Next week, MINALOC will hold a meeting with the Ambassadors to brief them ongoing reform in collaboration with MINAFFET.

5.3.4. The Chair added that the success of local administrative reform is essential to success in the development of the country and vice versa.

5.3.5. The discussion on the presentation focused on the following:

- **Impact of reform on projects** – The retreat discussed broad and general strategic issues. After the retreat, MINALOC has been discussing on where donors are to intervene in the transition process and after elections. MINALOC wants donors to harmonize further their interventions; donors should be looking at possibilities of establishing some type of basket fund or joint action forum if there are too many donors in one province.
- **Transition** – DPs agreed at the retreat on the importance and urgency of identifying the “how”. Decentralization needs to be a well thought-out package for donors. Donors require time to prepare and adjust their interventions. There is a lack of clarity for DPs on how support is supposed to be provided. MINALOC, MINECOFIN and RRA have different views on this and need to be coordinated.

6. Agenda Item #6: Announcements

6.1. January EDPRS Launch Workshop and Brief on Progress in PRSI Evaluation and EDPRS Roadmap

6.1.1. Ernest Rwamucyo, SPU Director (MINECOFIN), announced the official launching of the EDPRS process on January 26th and 27th 2006. The three key objectives of the workshop are to: (a) mobilize awareness and get everybody on board; (b) present clear ideas on taking the process forward; and (c) clarify the roles of forums that will take the process forward. The workshop will include technical working groups on prepared themes. Invitations will be sent to all stakeholders, but participation at the technical level (following the morning of the 26th) will have to be limited to 100-120 participants. More information is available on the website for the EDPRS: http://www.minecofin.gov.rw/poverty_reduction/index.htm.

6.2. Brief Presentation by the National Electoral Commission

6.2.1. The Executive Secretary of the NEC delivered a PowerPoint presentation (Annex 5). He attended the DPCG in order to inform DPs about the local and municipal elections of 2006 and solicit their support (financial and material) for these elections.

6.2.2. The budget presented is the following:

- Local and Municipal elections 3.407.370 USD
- Elections for specialized organs..... 2.248.017 USD
- Electoral observations (POER+RAJ)..... 100.000 USD

- **TOTAL:(approx. 5.756.000 USD) 5.755.387 USD**
- Government Contribution 3.385.000 USD
- **Financial Gap 2.371.000 USD**

6.2.3. Discussions on the presentation included:

- Co-Chair commended the NEC for its achievements to date, and mentioned his visit there. He urged donors to participate in the activities of the NEC.
- DPs stated that they have not seen any formal request to finance these elections from the NEC or a budget asking for support. The Executive Secretary stated that since 2004, they have been discussing with different partners and made presentations on the electoral process with Ambassadors and other agencies. The necessary efforts have been made. The Chair requested that the NEC take the necessary steps to ensure that the formal request had been made and to follow-up with the DPs for these important elections.

6.3. Second Annual DPCG Retreat

6.3.1. The EFU Director announced that the Second Annual Development Partners Retreat will take place on March 9th and 10th 2006 at the Kivu Sun Hotel in Gisenyi. He mentioned that a draft agenda for the retreat will be distributed for discussion at the February DPCG meeting. The main objectives of the retreat will be:

- To review 2005 milestones, progress and lessons learnt;
- To review priority actions and identify deliverables for 2006;
- To review progress in the EDPRS roadmap and results of PRS1 evaluation;
- To review draft Aid Policy prior to submission to Cabinet and agree on next steps for implementation;
- To review implementation of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness at the country-level, including discussions on the Independent Monitoring Group, Common Performance Assessment Framework and Joint Assistance Strategy;
- To enhance effectiveness of coordination mechanisms.

7. Agenda Item #7: AOB

7.1. **Africa Governance Forum (UNRC)** – The AGF will be held 22-24 February 2006.

The National Taskforce is chaired by the Minister of Local Government. The AGF is being

held in February due to substantive preparations Rwanda wished to complete, including the APRM. On January 16th, a meeting of the steering committee, chaired by Graça Machel, will be held in Johannesburg. The DPCG will soon receive official invitations and the agenda of the AGF.

7.2. Aid Policy Document (EFU Director) - There have been consultations with both GOR and DPs and the team of consultants has incorporated the inputs from different discussions. The team leader will be in Kigali the second half of February to revise the draft. The Draft will be presented to Development partners at the March DPCG retreat and will be submitted to Cabinet in order to be approved by GOR.

Secretary General
Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Government of the Republic of Rwanda
Co-Chair of the Development Partners Coordination Group

UN Resident Coordinator / Resident Representative
United Nations Development Programme
Kigali, Rwanda
Co-Chair of the Development Partners Coordination Group

ANNEX 1: FOLLOW-UP MATRIX

Follow-Up Actions	Responsibility	Required Coordination	Action to be complete by:
<i>Study tour of the EFU/ACU to Tanzania to discuss the APD.</i>	<i>EFU/ACU</i>	<i>MINECOFIN – Gov of Tanzania</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Work Plan for the strengthening of the EFU vis-à-vis the ability to implement the APD and in terms capacities and finances.</i>	<i>EFU (MINECOFIN)</i>	<i>ACU</i>	<i>By Mid February</i>
<i>Visit of delegations from Malawi and Zambia to Rwanda for study tour</i>	<i>EFU – ACU</i>	<i>Foreign Governments</i>	<i>February</i>
Hold meeting with DPs to brief on ongoing territorial reform	MINALOC	MINAFFET	January
Hold EDPRS Launch Workshop	SPU (MINECOFIN)		26-27 Jan
Follow-up with DPs on filling elections financing gap	NEC	EFU	Jan-Feb
Present to DPCG on Civil Service Salary Reform	MIFOTRA	EFU – ACU	Feb DPCG
Distribute DPM Action Plan to DPCG	EFU	ACU	Feb DPCG
Distribute CFAA to DPCG	MINECOFIN	BSHG	Feb DPCG
Draft DP Retreat agenda and distribute for discussion	EFU – ACU	MINECOFIN	Feb DPCG
Send official invitations and agenda of the AGF	UNRCO	AGF Steering Committee	Feb DPCG
Discuss Vocational Training for Youth in next EDPG Meeting	EDPG	MINEDUC DFID	Feb EDPG Meeting
Rwanda DAD - Incl. provision for pipeline projects - Integrate with SmartGov - Launch at DP Retreat	EFU – ACU	ICT (MINECOFIN) Synergy Int'l Systems	March DP Retreat
Prepare draft APD for review and discussion with DPs	EFU (MINECOFIN)	All GOR	March DP Retreat

ANNEX 2: List of Attendees

(by organization)

	Full Name	Job Title	Organization
1	Mr. Mohamed El-Azizi	Operations Officer	ADB - African Development Bank
2	Mr. Dirk Heuts	Cooperation Counsellor	Belgian Embassy
3	Mr. Dirk Brems	Cooperation Attaché	Belgian Embassy
4	Mr. Jacques Laberge	Head of Development Cooperation	Canadian Embassy
5	Mr. Michel L. Fréchette	PSU Director, CIDA	Canadian Embassy
6	Ms. Claudia Lormann-Nsengiyumva	Country Director, DED	German Cooperation
7	Dr. Colin Kirk	Head of Office	DFID - UK Department for International Development
8	Mr. Arif Ghauri	Governance Adviser	DFID - UK Department for International Development
9	Ms. Josephine Bourne	Senior Education Adviser	DFID - UK Department for International Development
10	Mr. Jerome Le Roy	Officer in Charge / Head of Contracts & Finances	EC - European Commission Delegation
11	Mr. Thomas Leeming	Economist	EC - European Commission Delegation
12	Mr. Jean-Baptiste Luciani	Cooperation Attaché	French Embassy
13	Mr. Hans von Schroeder	Deputy Chief of Mission and Head of Development Cooperation	German Embassy
14	Mr. Wolfgang Ahrens	Chief Technical Advisor, GTZ	German Cooperation
15	Mr. Masayoshi Ono	Japanese ODA Advisor	JICA - Japan International Cooperation Agency
16	Mr. Francis Mugisha	Financial Management Specialist, HIDA	MIFOTRA - Ministry of Public Services, Training, Skills Development and Labour
17	Mr. Apollinaire Mushinzimana	National Decentralization Implementation Secretariat	MINALOC - Ministry of Local Government, Good Governance, Community Development and Social Affairs
18	Mr. John Rwangombwa	Secretary General	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
19	Mr. Jean Jacques Nyirubutama	Director, External Finance Unit	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning

	Full Name	Job Title	Organization
20	Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo	Director, Strategic Planning Unit	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
21	Mr. Gianluca Rampolla	Head of Aid Coordination Unit	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
22	Mr. Didier Gakuba	ICT Specialist, External Finance Unit	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
23	Mr. Alex Karangwa	Economist in charge of Bilateral Organizations, External Finance Unit	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
24	Ms. Elise Rusingizandekwe	External Finance Unit	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
25	Mr. Robin Ogilvy	ODI Fellow, External Finance Unit	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
26	Mr. Prosper Bigango	EFU Intern	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
27	Mr. Robert Cook	SPU Economist	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
28	Mr. Kareem I. Oweiss	Aid Coordination Associate, EFU/ACU	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
29	Mr. Dereck Rusagara	ICT Associate, EFU/ACU	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
30	Mr. Paul Farran	Junior Professional Consultant, EFU/ACU	MINECOFIN - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
31	Mr. Narcise Musabeyezu	Secretary General	MINEDUC - Ministry of Education
32	Mr. Claver Yisa	Director of Planning	MINEDUC - Ministry of Education
33	Ms. Raakhi Odedra	ODI Fellow, Planning Department	MINEDUC - Ministry of Education
34	Mr. Damien Habumuremyi	Executive Secretary	NEC - National Electoral Commission
35	Mr. Jean-Baptiste Kwitonda	Planner	NEC - National Electoral Commission
36	Mr. Hugo Moudiki Jombwe	Co-Chair and ASF Country Director	NINGO - Network of International Non-Governmental Organizations in Rwanda
37	Mr. Sean Gallagher	Co-Chair and CRS Country Director	NINGO - Network of International Non-Governmental Organizations in Rwanda
38	Mr. Gertjan Tempelman	Deputy Chief of Mission and Head of Development Cooperation	Royal Netherlands Embassy
39	Mr. Robert-Jan Siegert	Deputy Head of Development Cooperation	Royal Netherlands Embassy

	Full Name	Job Title	Organization
40	Mr. John Bosco Kalisa	Ag. Executive Secretary	RPSF - Rwanda Private Sector Federation
41	Mr. Matthias Weingart	Country Director	SDC - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
42	Mr. Arne Ström	Head of Mission	Sida - Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency
43	Ms. Joanna Athlin	Program Officer	Sida - Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency
44	Ms. Sandra Diesel	Program Officer	Sida - Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency
45	Mr. Moustapha Soumaré	Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator	UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
46	Mr. Alain Noudehou	Deputy Resident Representative and Programme Director	UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
47	Mr. Eugène Nkubito	Governance Programme Specialist	UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
48	Mr. Steven Kooshak	Governance Programme Officer	UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
49	Mr. Mbaye Diouf	Regional Director	UNECA - United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
50	Mr. Nicolas Coutin	Associate Programme Officer	UNHCR - United Nations Refugee Agency
51	Honorable Michael R. Arietti	Ambassador	United States Embassy
52	Mr. Kevin Mullally	Mission Director	USAID - United States Agency for International Development
53	Mr. Bonaventure Niyibizi	Senior Advisor	USAID - United States Agency for International Development
54	Dr. Regan Whitworth	Senior Technical Advisor	USAID - United States Agency for International Development
55	Mr. Alex Kamurase	Operations Officer	WB - World Bank
56	Ms. Liz Drake	Rural Sector Anchor	WB - World Bank
57	Ms. Maarit Hirvonen	Country Representative	WFP - World Food Programme
58	Mr. Jeanne d'Arc Kabagema	Family Health Advisor	WHO - World Health Organization